

Her MAJESTY'S

MOST GRACIOUS

LETTER

TO THE

Parliament of Scotland.

With the Lord High Commissioner and Lord High Chancellor's Speeches relating to the UNION.

ANNE R.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since your last Meeting We did Nominate Commissioners to Treat of an Union betwixt Our two Kingdoms of Scotland and England, and by their great Care and Diligence a Treaty is happily concluded and laid before Us.

We have called you together as soon as Our Affairs could permit, that the Treaty may be under your Consideration, in pursuance of the Act made in the last Session of Our Parliament there; and We hope the Terms will be acceptable to you.

The Union has been long desired by both Nations, and We shall esteem it as the greatest Glory of Our Reign to have it now perfected, being fully persuaded that it must prove the greatest Happiness of Our People.

An intire and perfect Union will be the solid Foundation of lasting Peace: It will secure your Religion, Liberty and Property, remove the Animosities among your selves, and the Jealousies and Differences betwixt Our two Kingdoms: It must increase your Strength, Riches and Trade: And by this Union the whole Island, being joyned in Affection, and free from all Apprehension of different Interests, will be enabled to resist all its Enemies, support the Protestant Interest every where, and maintain the Liberties of Europe.

We do upon this Occasion renew the Assurances We have formerly given you, of Our Resolution to maintain the Government of the Church, as by Law Established in Scotland, and the Acts of both Parliaments, upon which this Treaty proceeded, having reserved their respective Governments of the Church in each Kingdom; the Commissioners have left that Matter entire; and you have now an Opportunity for doing what may be necessary for Security of your present Church Government after the Union within the Limits of SCOTLAND.

The Support of Our Government, and your own

Safety does require, that you do make necessary Provision for maintaining the Forces, Ships and Garrisons, until the Parliament of GREAT-BRITAIN shall provide for these Ends in the United Kingdom.

We have made choice of Our Right Trusty, and Right Entirely Beloved Cousin and Counsellor, James Duke of Queensberry, to be Our Commissioner, and Represent Our Royal Person, being well satisfy'd with his Fitness for that Trust, from the Experience We have of his Capacity, Zeal and Fidelity to Our Service, and the Good of his Country; which, as it has determined Us in the Choice, We doubt not but will make him acceptable to you.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It cannot but be an Encouragement to you to finish the Union at this Time, that God Almighty has blessed Our Arms, and those of Our Allies, with so great Success, which gives Us the nearer Prospect of a happy Peace, and with it you will have the full Possession of all the Advantages of this Union; and you have no reason to doubt but the Parliament of England will do what is necessary on their part, after the Readiness they have shown to remove what might obstruct the entering on the Treaty. We most earnestly Recommend to you Calmness and Unanimity in this Great and Weighty Affair, that the Union may be brought to a happy Conclusion, being the only effectual Way to Secure your present and future Happiness, and to Disappoint the Designs of Our and your Enemies, who will, doubtless, on this Occasion, use their utmost Endeavours to Prevent or Delay this Union, which must so much contribute to Our Glory, and the Happiness of Our People: And so We bid you heartily farewell. Given at Our Court at Windsor-Castle the Thirty first Day of July 1706, and of Our Reign the Fifth Year.

By Her Majesty's Command.

M A R

The Speech of his Grace James Duke of Queensberry, Her Majesty's High Commissioner to the Parliament of Scotland.

On Thursday the Third of October 1706.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

HER Majesty, by Her Gracious Letter, has acquainted You, That the Treaty of Union between the Kingdoms of Scotland and England (pursuant to an Act made in Your last Session) has been happily Agreed on, which is now in my Lord Registers Hands, ready to be laid before You.

The Lords Commissioners for this Kingdom have been Diligent and Zealous in Concerting just and Reasonable Terms; and it must be acknowledg'd We meet with a very Fair and Friendly Disposition in the Lords Commissioners on the other Part.

The Treaty has, with all Humility been Presented to the Queen, and was most Graciously Received; and tho' no Reign was ever so truly Great, for Wise and Steady Councils, and so many Important Successes, as that of Her Majesty; yet, You see, She is pleas'd to Esteem the Perfecting of this Union, as the greatest Glory of Her Reign, being the most solid Foundation of a lasting Security to the Protestant Religion, and the Liberties of Europe, and of Peace and Happiness to Her People.

These Reasons, I doubt not, will make the Treaty acceptable to You; and I persuade my self that You will

will Proceed with such Calmness and Impartiality, as the Weight of the Subject Requires, and as becomes so Great an Assembly.

The Lords Commissioners for both Kingdoms were Limited in the Matter of Church Government; for the Security of Presbyterian Government in this Church, you have the Laws already made for its Establishment, the Queens Repeated Assurances to preserve it, and I am Impowered to Consent to what may be further necessary after the Union.

Her Majesty has been pleased to Recommend to You to make Provision for the Forces, Ships and Gar-

risons, which is very necessary, the Subsidies granted at Your last Meeting being run out; so I doubt not You will speedily Renew them.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am not insensible of the great Difficulties that attend the Weighty Character, it has pleased Her Majesty to Honour me with, but with Your favourable Assistance, (upon which I very much Rely) I hope, by my Zeal and Fidelity for Her Majesties Service, and the Good of my Country, which are inseparable, to Discharge my Duty on this extraordinary Occasion.

The Speech of *James Earl of Seafield* Lord High Chancellor, to the Parliament of *SCOTLAND*.

On Thursday the Third of October 1706.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

It hath been, and is the great Happiness of this Nation, that the Queen our Sovereign, hath always made it the chief Design of Her Reign, to protect Her Subjects in the Enjoyment of all their Rights and Privileges, to Promove their Good, and to Establish their Peace and Prosperity, upon sure and lasting Foundations.

For these Ends, Her Majesty, in Her most Gracious Letter, doth, with great Earnestness, Recommend to You the Concluding of the Union of the Two Kingdoms, and has plainly and fully laid before You the great Advantages that this Union must bring with it to all *BRITAIN*, and in particular to this Kingdom.

The Lords Commissioners named by Her Majesty for this Kingdom to Treat of this Union, have endeavoured to Discharge this great Trust, with all Fidelity, and have agreed to such Terms and Conditions, as I hope shall be found Just, Honourable and Advantageous: The Treaty has been already Received very Graciously by Her Majesty, and is now ready to be Reported to You for Your Consideration.

TO the particular Articles of the Treaty; I shall only beg leave to say in general, That it must be of great Advantage to have this whole Island Unite under one Government, and Conjoined entirely in Interest and Affection, having Equality of all Rights and Privileges, with a free Communication and Intercourse of Trade, which must certainly Establish Our Security, Augment Our Strength, and Increase Our Trade and Riches.

We can never expect a more favourable Juncture for Compleating this Union than at present, when Her Majesty has not only Recommended it, but Declared, That She will Esteem it the greatest Glory of Her Reign, to have it Perfected; and when the Parliament of *England* has shown Their Inclinations for it, by Removing all these Obstacles that did lie in the way of the Treaty: And it must also be acknowledged

that the Lords Commissioners for *England* did Testify their Good Disposition all along in this Affair: And the Great and Glorious Successes wherewith God has Blessed Her Majesty's Arms, and those of Her Allies, give us the Hope of a Near and Advantageous Peace, whereby we will be put in the Possession, and attain to the full Enjoyment of all the Liberties and Privileges of Trade, now Offered by the Treaty.

The Commissioners of both Sides have only Treated of such Things as concern the Civil Government, Liberties, Privileges, Trade and Taxes; but found themselves Limited as to the Church Government, that being Reserved to each Kingdom by the respective Acts of Parliament, upon which the Treaty proceeded; and you have now not only the Laws already made, with Her Majesties most Gracious Repeated Assurances, for maintaining and continuing Presbyterian Church Government within this Kingdom; but this further Opportunity of making such Conditions and Provisions, as shall be found Necessary for its Security, after the Conclusion of this Union, within the Limits of *SCOTLAND*.

Her Majesty Recommends to You to Provide the necessary Supplies for the Troops, Garrisons and Ships; The sum formerly given are expired; and therefore I doubt not but you will easily Comply with what is so plainly necessary for the Preservation of the Publick Safety, and Preventing the Designs of Enemies now in time of War.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Since we have now the Opportunity of Establishing for Our Selves and Our Posterity, by this Union with *England*, all that concerns Our Religion and Liberties, together with the most valuable Privileges of Trade, I am hopeful that You will proceed to the Consideration of the Articles of the Treaty, in such manner as shall bring it to the desired Conclusion, and it cannot but tend to the lasting Honour of this Session of Parliament to have so happily finish'd this most Important and Weighty Matter.

EDINBURGH, Printed by the Heirs and Successors of *Andrew Anderson*, Printer, to the Queen's most Excellent Majesty; and re-printed for *A. Bell*, at the Bible and Cross-Keys in Cornhill near the Royal-Exchange, London, for whom the Treaty of the Union will also be re-printed in a few days, from the Copy printed by the Order of the Parliament of Scotland.

Harvard College Library
Sheldon Fund
September 46, 1939